

1

Further Substitute Preliminary Amendment

(Amendment C-Paper No. 12)

## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Schroder et al

RCE of U.S. Serial No. 09/316,905

Art Unit: 2141

Filed: May 21, 1999

Examiner: Willett, S. F.

For: IN METHODS OF INTERCONNECTED ROUTER NODES FOR ROUTING  
DATA TRAFFIC, A METHOD OF AND SYSTEM FOR IMPERCEPTIBLY  
UPGRADING ROUTER NODE SOFTWARE AND THE LIKE WITHOUT  
TRAFFIC INTERRUPTION

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The applicants have had to file this Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in view  
of the final rejection notice received from the US Patent Office dated February 4, 2004.

Replying to the Office communication of February 4, 2004, please amend the  
application as follows: